

FINAL

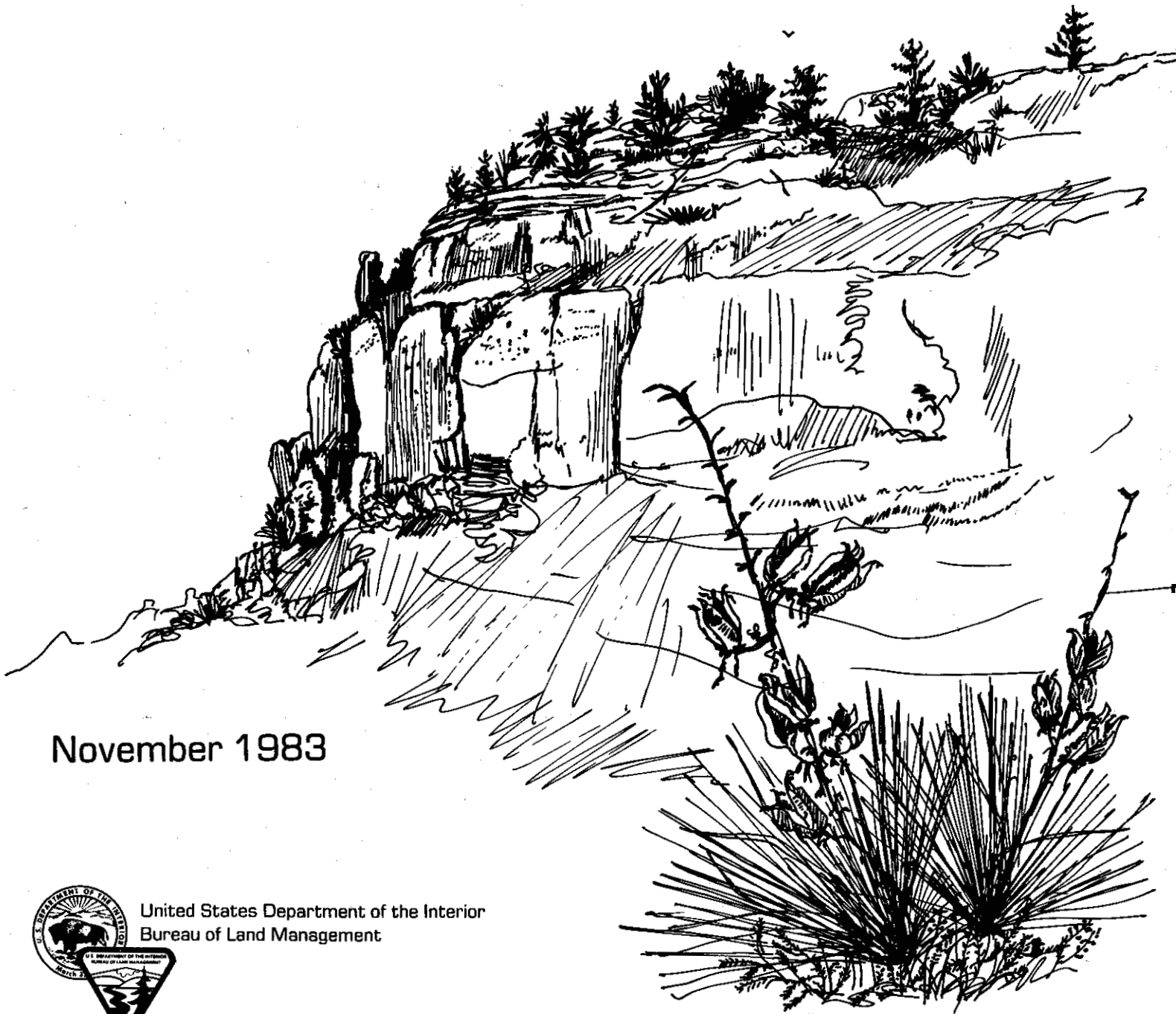
Environmental Impact Statement

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN Billings Resource Area

November 1983



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Miles City District Office
West of Miles City — P.O. Box 940
Miles City, Montana 59301

November 1, 1983

Enclosed for your review is the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for the Billings Resource Area Management Plan. The draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) was published in April 1983, and was followed by a 90-day public comment period. Changes based upon public comments have been incorporated into this document and all portions of the draft have been reprinted in order to portray those changes. This FEIS contains the proposed resource management plan, which is a refinement of the preferred alternative presented in the draft. The proposed plan is the BLM's proposed action.

With the exception of certain wilderness recommendations, all parts of this proposed plan may be protested. A separate wilderness environmental impact statement is required and will be prepared for public release by early spring 1984. Non-wilderness related protests should be sent to the Director (202), Bureau of Land Management, 1800 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20240, within the official 30-day protest period ending December 30, 1983. Protest statements should contain the following information:

The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest.

A statement of the issue or issues being protested.

A statement of the part or parts being protested.

A copy of all documents addressing the issue or issues that were submitted during the planning process by the protesting party or an indication of the date the issue or issues were discussed for the record.

A short concise statement explaining why the BLM Miles City District Manager's decision is wrong.

At the end of the 30-day protest period, the proposed plan, excluding any portions under protest, shall become the final. The effective date of plan implementation is March 1, 1984. Approval shall be withheld on any portion of the plan under protest until final action has been completed on such protest. The Final Resource Management Plan and record of decision will be published in mid 1984.

Sincerely,


Ray Brubaker, District Manager

FINAL

Environmental Impact Statement

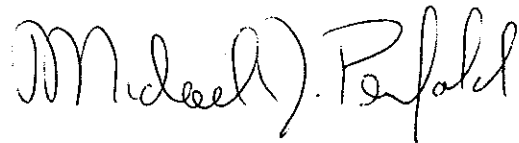
**RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
PLAN**

Billings Resource Area

Prepared by

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

November 1983

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael J. Perfolo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

**STATE DIRECTOR
MONTANA STATE OFFICE**

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Draft()

Final (X)

BILLINGS RESOURCE AREA BILLINGS, MONTANA

Lead Agency

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management

Type of Action

Administrative (X)

Legislative()

ABSTRACT

This final environmental impact statement (FEIS) describes and analyzes the proposed Resource Management Plan for the Billings Resource Area. It was developed following a 90-day review of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS), which described and analyzed four alternatives for managing the Billings Resource Area. The final resource management plan will be published with the record of decision in mid-1984. The effective date of plan implementation is March 1, 1984.

For further information regarding this environmental impact statement:

Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Billings Resource Area
810 East Main
Billings, Montana 59105
Telephone: (406) 657-6262

Date by Which Protests Must be Received: December 30, 1983